REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims are revised from the originally published format to correct/remove multiple dependencies.

Applicants await an early action on the merits. If the Examiner finds this case is not now in condition for allowance and believes that an interview prior to first action would be helpful in focussing and/or resolving issues, applicants request the Examiner to contact their representative at the telephone number listed below to arrange a telephonic or personal interview.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

Leonard/C. Mitchard (Reg./No. 29,009

By:

LCM:Ifm 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100